



Sharelle Stagg, p.8



Robotics collaboration, p.16

Spotlight on Women

Strong Women Are the Backbone Of the Greenbelt News Review

by Erica Johns



PHOTO BY PEGGY HIGGINS

Board President Cathie Meetre at the 80th birthday party for Mary Lou Williamson in 2017

Part II of a Three-Part Story

Following in the footsteps of many “grand dames,” strong women continue to lead and nurture the News Review today.

Cathie Meetre (2011-Present)

News Review Board President Cathie Meetre led a 2022 writer workshop which produced several new reporters, all women. Maintaining the paper’s cross-training practices, Editor Mary Lou Williamson has trained three others who volunteered to perform as front-page editor (yes, all women), and enjoys observing what they each bring to the role.

When Meetre joined the News Review in 2011 (after stints in the 1970s and 1990s), Board President Eileen Farnham asked her to fill a temporary email gap while Eileen had surgery and Vice President Tom White filled the president role. Eileen didn’t return, so Tom became president and Cathie vice president. When Tom died in 2015, Cathie became president.

Deanna Dawson (2013-present)

Meetre has spearheaded

See WOMEN, page 12

Grandes Dames

Elaine Skolnik, Virginia Beauchamp and Mary Lou Williamson have the longest years of service of all News Review staff. Skolnik served 58 years from 1957 to 2015, Beauchamp 59 years from 1957 to 2016 and Williamson from 1962 through now – 60 years and counting. Skolnik didn’t drive, and Beauchamp’s daughter Edith wrote in 2007, “Beauchamp, now 87, sometimes volunteers to drive Skolnik over to work on Tuesdays.... They’re quite a pair, those two.”

Spotlight on Women

Kimberly Schmidt Broadens Women’s Historical Narrative

by Dana Tompkins

Kimberly Schmidt, one of Greenbelt’s newer residents, has dedicated her professional career to telling the stories of marginalized women. As a retired professor of history from Eastern Mennonite University, Schmidt has focused her research on the social history of Mennonite and Amish women, as well as women’s histories of the Southern Cheyenne Tribe. It is the latter which serves as the basis of Schmidt’s historical fiction novel, *Magpie’s Blanket*, published in 2016.

Born in Indonesia, Schmidt was raised in a Mennonite family in Kansas. Becoming a professor of history was not always her professional goal. In fact, after graduating from the small



PHOTO BY ANDREW J. STRACK

Dr. Kimberly Schmidt holds a copy of her historical novel, *Magpie’s Blanket*.

Mennonite college in Kansas that her grandfather helped found, her intention was to pursue a master’s degree then lobby for civil rights. This she did for a time during her post-college stint in Washington, D.C.

Schmidt later pursued her graduate work at New York’s Binghamton University, where she found common causes with her fellow students at the university’s then-unique programs focused on organized labor, African American and women’s history. It was pursuing her Ph.D. and writing her dissertation that brought her back to studying Mennonite life, now through an academic lens.

See SCHIMDT, page 6

Recognition for Greenbelt’s Many Outstanding Educators

by Anna Bedford-Dillow



PHOTO BY JAMARIE SPENCER

Greenbelt City councilmembers are pictured at the 28th ACE Educator Awards, back row from left: Ric Gordon, Mayor Emmett Jordan, Silke Pope, Kristen Weaver, Colin Byrd and Rodney Roberts. This year’s winners are Charles Mills of Eleanor Roosevelt High School (pictured left, in a purple shirt), Dr. Joan Jackson of Greenbelt Middle School (pictured below Mayor Jordan in a white, gray and black checked sweater), Loribeth Rivera of Springhill Lake Elementary (pictured beside Dr. Jackson, also in front of Mayor Jordan, in a black and gray blazer), LaTrena Turner of Magnolia Elementary (pictured front and center in a pink blazer), Jasmine Giddings of Greenbelt Elementary (pictured between councilmembers Weaver and Byrd, in a black shirt), and Dr. Tyrone McNeal of Dora Kennedy French Immersion (absent but represented by Principal Spence, who is pictured in a blue suit, next to Ms. Giddings, between councilmembers Byrd and Roberts). Also in attendance, second and third from left, were Prince George’s County School Board Member Jason Briggs and County Councilmember Ingrid Watson, along with many ACE members.

On March 13, Greenbelt City Council hosted the presentation of the 28th Advisory Committee on Education (ACE) Educator Awards.

ACE was formed in 1994, and seeks to connect council with local schools to promote high-

quality schools for Greenbelt. Their annual Educator Awards recognize those making exceptional contributions to Greenbelt schools, be they teachers, guidance counselors, support or building staff or other professionals. ACE selects the awardees

based on nominations from each school’s administration.

Loribeth Rivera

Loribeth Rivera is a first-grade teacher at Springhill Lake Elementary. She has been

See EDUCATORS, page 8

Should Non-Citizens Vote Discussed by Council, Board

by Susan Taylor

During a February 8 work-session, Greenbelt’s Board of Elections and the Greenbelt City Council debated extending votes in city elections to all Greenbelt residents, regardless of citizenship status. Investigating this question had been a referral from council

to the board. Other local municipalities, including Hyattsville, Cheverly and Takoma Park already do this. Councilmember Ric Gordon shared that New Carrollton, Mount Rainier and Brightwood are also “looking heavily at this.”

Charter and code amendments would be required and council discussed what proof and duration of residency should be required.

Most councilmembers expressed a preference for greater inclusion in voting. “The question of whether or not they are a citizen is not as important as the fact that they are Greenbelters and that they are involved in a lot of different ways ... I know there are a lot of other views, strong views, on this,” stated

Mayor Emmett Jordan.

Although Councilmember Silke Pope is a naturalized citizen and freely admitted that

See VOTING, page 9

What Goes On

Tuesday, March 28 7:30 p.m., City Council Meeting, Municipal Building
Wednesday, March 29 7:30 p.m., Budget Worksession: Overview, Revenues and General Government/Other Funds/Non-departmental and Fund Transfers/Economic Development, Municipal Building

See the city ad on page 5 or the meetings calendar at greenbeltmd.gov for more information.

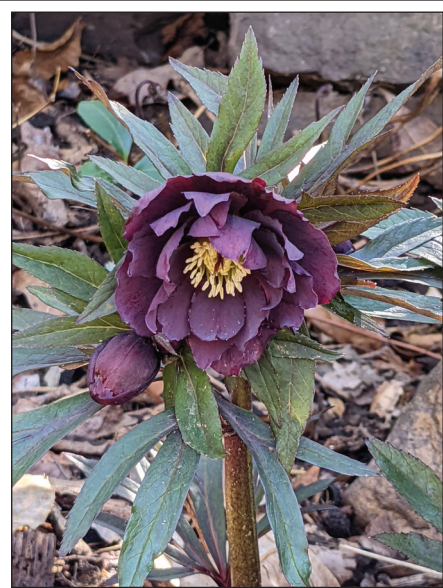


PHOTO BY CAMILA LUCHSINGER

Hellebores

Travels with News Review



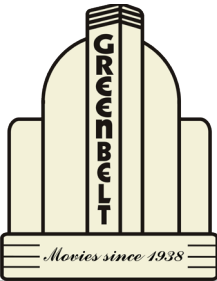
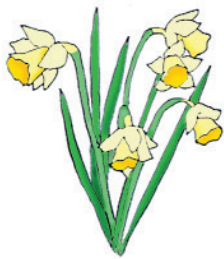
News Review at Masada in Israel, with Carol Slatin

PHOTO COURTESY CAROL SLATIN



Isabel Martin visits Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry (at Universal Orlando Resort), along with the News Review.

PHOTO COURTESY ISABEL MARTIN



Old Greenbelt Theatre
129 Centerway
301-329-2034
www.greenbelttheatre.org
Members Always \$6.50!
Member kids are always FREE!
Adults \$9, Kids \$6,
Senior/Student/Military \$8
All shows before 5 PM:
Adults \$7, Kids \$5
OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions
DVS = Descriptive Video Service

SHOWTIMES:
MARCH 24TH - MARCH 30TH

Screen 1 - Main Auditorium

The Lost King (PG-13) (CC)
(DVS) (2023) (109 mins)

Fri. 5:00 PM, **7:30 PM**
w/ guest speaker!
Sat. 5:15 PM, 7:45 PM
Sun. 2:30 PM (OC), 5:00 PM
Mon. 5:00 PM
Tues. 7:00 PM
Wed. 7:00 PM
Thurs. 7:00 PM

Screen 2 - The Screening Room

Return to Seoul
(R) (2023) (118 mins)
Korean with English subtitles

Fri. 7:45 PM
Sat. 5:00 PM
Sun. 2:15 PM
Mon. 2:30 PM **Screen 1**
Tues. 7:30 PM
Wed. 5:00 PM
Thurs. 4:30 PM **Screen 1**

One Fine Morning
(R) (2023) (112 mins)
French with English subtitles

Fri. 5:15 PM
Sat. 7:30 PM
Sun. 5:15 PM
Mon. 12:00 PM **Screen 1**
Tues. 5:00 PM
Wed. 7:30 PM
Thurs. 3:30 PM



Slow down and smell the cherry blossoms.

- News Review, April 4, 2019 Pete Reppert

Letters Policy

Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published). Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary. All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.



Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
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Mary Lou Williamson, Editor
Anna Bedford-Dillow, Managing Editor

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PUBLICATION DEADLINES:
- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display Ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All Letters to the Editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified Ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 - 8 p.m.
Office is currently closed to the public. Please phone or email.
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the municipal building.



On Screen at Old Greenbelt Theatre

The Lost King

In this inspiring comedy drama (a true story), amateur historian Philippa Langley (Sally Hawkins) believes she has made the archaeological find of the century: the lost burial site of King Richard III. She takes on Britain's most eminent historians, forcing them to rethink the legacy of one of the most controversial rulers in English history. Said critic Brian Eggert of Deep Focus Review: "It's a story about an average woman finding her passion and happiness, all while overcoming prejudices and long-held assumptions until she literally changes history. What could be more thrilling?"

Return to Seoul

(Korean with English subtitles)

On an impulse to reconnect with her origins, Freddie, 25, returns to South Korea for the first time, where she was born before being adopted and raised in France. The headstrong young woman starts looking for her biological parents in a country she knows so little about, taking her life in new and unexpected directions. "A funny, melancholy, music-laced film that surprised me from start to finish," said NPR critic John Powers.

One Fine Morning

(French with English subtitles)

Sandra (Léa Seydoux), a young mother who raises her daughter alone, pays regular visits to her sick father. While she and her family fight tooth and nail to get him the care he requires, Sandra reconnects with Clément, a friend she hasn't seen in a while. Although he is in a relationship, the two begin a passionate affair. The critics' consensus about the film: Finely wrought to a fault, One Fine Morning presents a subtle, well-acted look at life and love.

Community Events

Arts Advisory Board to Meet

The Greenbelt Arts Advisory Board will meet on Tuesday, April 4 at 7 p.m. on Zoom. The board will meet with Recognition Groups during the meeting. For more information and to obtain the Zoom link, email alarsen@greenbeltmd.gov.

Menu for Senior Nutrition Program

The Senior Nutrition Food and Friendship program provides lunches for seniors Mondays and Wednesdays at the Community Center beginning at 11 a.m. Meals must be reserved one week ahead so that enough food is ordered. Call 301-397-2208 ext. 4215.

All meals, which provide at least one third of Recommended Dietary Allowances for older adults, include margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk. Menus for the week of March 27 are as follows:

Monday, March 27: Popcorn chicken, macaroni and cheese, broccoli, whole wheat bread and fresh fruit. The vegetarian option is quinoa, carrots and Brussels sprouts.

Wednesday, March 29: Chicken cacciatore with bow-tie pasta, green peas, whole wheat roll, peas and orange juice. The vegetarian option is mushroom Stroganoff with penne pasta.

Greenbelt Chess Club Meets Monday

The Greenbelt Chess Club will meet on Monday, March 27 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the New Deal Café. The group is diverse and welcomes all ages and skill levels.

Club members also teach chess as needed. Questions? Call Effie at 443-415-1053.



Stroll GHI Trails

Meet at 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 26 at the Canyon Creek Trailhead between 58 and 62 Ridge Road for a walk on woodland trails around Laurel Hill and Plateau Place. This is a chance to enjoy and learn more about the trails in the GHI Woodlands, while checking their current condition and identifying maintenance needs as part of activities by the GHI Woodlands Committee. The stroll will follow two loops, on Laurel Hill and across Plateau Place, and include some connecting trails in the North Woods Tract of the Forest Preserve.

Optional bonus walk afterward to the GHI trails in Parcel X between Laurel Hill Road and the Hillside Road Tunnel and west of Research Road in Parcel W.

For information, contact BryanBruns@yahoo.com



Make Sculptures At Artful Afternoon

The Greenbelt Recreation Arts Program invites guests of all ages to create intricate 3-D hanging paper sculptures with local artist Barbara Joann Combs. This free Artful Afternoon activity will take place on Sunday, April 2 in the Community Center's ground floor east space. There will be two seatings, from 1 to 2 p.m. and 2 to 3 p.m. Advance registration is recommended; sign up online at bit.ly/3ZJSQmd. Walk-ins are welcome if space allows. The Community Center is located at 15 Crescent Road. Enter by the flag pole on the east side of the building.

Art materials will be provided and masks are strongly recommended.

Greenbelt's arts programs are supported in part by a grant from the Maryland State Arts Council. For additional program information, visit greenbeltmd.gov/arts.

Create Colorful Baskets In Friday Workshop

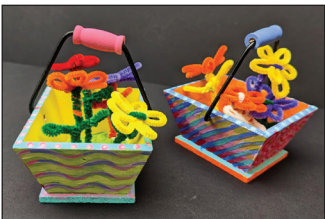


PHOTO BY RACHEL ANN CROSS

Baskets are decorated and spring inspired pieces made to fill them.

Paint and decorate small pre-made baskets with Community Center Artist-in-Residence Rachel Ann Cross. Once the baskets are decorated, then create and decorate spring-inspired art pieces to fill them. This workshop will take place Friday, March 24 from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Community Center. No experience is necessary and all supplies will be provided for this fun, all-ages workshop. Nominal fees apply. Learn more and register for activity # 233204-1 at bit.ly/3JEL47C. This activity is sponsored by the Greenbelt Recreation Arts Program. For more program information, visit greenbeltmd.gov.

Join Gardening Angels

Retirees and telecommuters who want an outdoor lunch break are invited to attend a worksession of a Woodlands Committee group addressing the biodiversity crisis in our own community on Thursday, March 30 from noon to 1 p.m. This year, a nurturing habitat will be created by propagating native plants, removing invasives and installing the plants nurtured in common spaces in Greenbelt. Meet on the bike path next to the Hillside Road underpass, just a bit uphill from the Firefly Sanctuary. There is work for all kinds of bodies, so whether one can dig all day or wants to get hands in the soil while seated at a table, come on out. For more information, contact SowingStrength2@gmail.com.

Community Orchestra Needs Musicians

Plans are underway to start a community orchestra in Greenbelt. Anyone who plays an orchestral instrument or who is interested in helping out in some capacity is encouraged to fill out an interest form to gauge whether there is enough interest to move forward with the plans. The form is available at tinyurl.com/GreenbeltOrchestra.

For more information, contact Anne Gardner at annegreenbelt@gmail.com.



Work to Restore GHI Woodlands

Help with planting for the benefit of fireflies, butterflies and birds. The Woodlands Committee is hosting a workday on Saturday, March 25 from 9 a.m. to noon. The project is to remove invasive shrubs and vines, move mulch and plant elderberry and native wildflowers near the Hillside Road underpass, between 13 and 19 Courts Hillside Road. Meet on the bike path by the underpass, just a bit uphill from the Firefly Sanctuary.

Bring a face mask for when in proximity to others, clothes that cover the skin, leather gloves and thick pants to protect against scratches and loppers, pruning shears, trowels or shovels.

For more information, contact SowingStrength2@gmail.com.



More Community Events are located throughout the paper.



Greenbelt Access Television

Verizon FIOS Channel 19 • Comcast 77
(School Programming on Your Cable Guide)
Streaming on www.greenbeltaccessstv.org

Beginning Filmmaking Class starts on Monday, April 3rd!

Students will learn the basics of cinematography and editing in order to create their own unique short films during this eight week class.

Class: Mondays 5 - 7 pm / CC-204 (GATE Studio)
8 meetings: 4/3 - 5/22

Open Lab: Thursdays 4 - 6 pm / CC-204
8 meetings: 4/6 - 5/25

Spring Registration is **Open!**

To register, visit recreation.greenbeltmd.gov
You can also call 301-397-2200 or 301-397-2208, or email cpracht@greenbeltmd.gov or rcampbell@greenbeltmd.gov

Check greenbeltaccessstv.org for the full broadcast schedule, and visit Greenbelt Access Television on YouTube for new video productions.

This Week at the New Deal Café

The ONLY Greenbelt venue with BOTH dinner AND a show!

RESERVATIONS: 301-474-5642



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK.

Nourished by the Greenbelt Co-op

113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD
Hours: Monday – Thursday 8am – 9pm; Friday/Saturday 8am – midnight; Sunday 9am – 9pm

TH 3/23	FRI 3/24	SAT 3/25	SUN 3/26	
<div>The Porch Delights</div> <div>RUTHIE LOGSDON, ARCH ALCANTARA & BILL WILLIAMS</div> <div>7-9pm</div> <div>Front porch style Americana music</div>	<div>REN FAIRE FRIDAY!*</div> <div>Consort Anon, Tower Green & Brinjal</div> <div>*** 7 - 11pm ***</div> <div>Renaissance music</div>	<div>NDC Saturday Jazz Jam</div> <div>2-5pm</div> <div>Zydeco Jed</div> <div>8-11pm</div> <div>East Coast roots band</div>	<div>Deaf Brunch*</div> <div>10:30 -12pm</div> <div>DeBonis/Allen Band w/ Katy Gaughan</div> <div>6-8pm</div> <div>Party Jam Band!</div>	
MON 3/27	TUES 3/28	WED 3/29	TH 3/30	MON - FRI
<div>Chess Club</div> <div>6-8pm</div> <div>New Deal Cafe Board meeting*</div> <div>All are welcome!</div> <div>6:30 - 7:30pm</div>	<div>NDC Early Bird Tunes Open Mic w/Michael McTrouserspants</div> <div>7-9pm</div> <div>Sign in's at 6:15</div> <div>Express yourself!</div>	<div>Funktronics</div> <div>7-9pm</div> <div>A fresh take of classic grooves and recent jams</div>	<div>Cadillac Jump Blues Band</div> <div>7-9pm</div> <div>Blues veterans digging in deep and laying it down!</div>	<div>Happy Hour</div> <div>4-7pm</div> <div>\$1.00 off beer and wine</div>

It's time to renew your membership or join NDC. Go to www.newdealcafe.com, click on "ABOUT", then "BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW."

*For more information on these events, visit the NDC CALENDAR page on our website.

It's here! GATE'S ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

(in person)

26 MARCH 2023 • 3:00 PM
COMMUNITY CENTER • ROOM 204

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP OR BECOME A MEMBER NOW AT:
WWW.GREENBELTACCESSTV.COM/MEMBERSHIP

RSVP: GreenbeltAccess@gmail.com

Lions Club Donations



Greenbelt arts community comes through with donations for kids with cancer. Konrad Herling placed boxes in the Community Center (pictured) and Aquatic & Fitness Center on behalf of the Greenbelt Lions Club.

Greenbelt Lion Konrad Herling expressed his delight at Greenbelters’ impressive recent contributions of arts supplies to help children with cancer. Herling told the News Review it was rewarding to collect the arts supplies dropped into the Lions’ boxes at the Community Center and the Fitness Center. Herling joined with other Lions from the area to take the supplies to the Washington Children’s Hospital Center where they have arts therapists working with the children. It’s hoped that the access to art will not only provide some joyful entertainment for the sick children but, as some studies suggest, might even give them a better chance at successful outcomes.

PHOTO BY RUTH CAMPBELL



March PORCH Food Pickups

Greenbelt PORCH is continuing its program to collect food as follows:

Sunday, March 26. By 4 p.m. for 9 and 12 Courts Ridge Road and 11 and 13 Courts Ridge Road; by 5 p.m. for Lakeside Drive.

If there is no monthly food drive in your neighborhood, you can help through P.A.L. Contact Robert Goldberg-Strassler at spreadruak@gmail.com with your address by noon on the scheduled monthly pickup date. Leave donations in a box or bag labelled RUAK or PORCH on the porch or near the front door or other location visible from the street. Only donate food items that have not passed their use-by date.

New volunteers are welcome to expand Porch Greenbelt to additional neighborhoods in Greenbelt.

Community Church Hosts Lenten Meals

Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ is currently hosting its annual series of Agape Meals on Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m. through March 29.

Agape meals are a Lenten tradition for the church and named using the Greek word for the unconditional, unearned love that God has for all. Each simple meal of soup, bread and salad is preceded by short devotional lessons. These events are a celebration of Lent and intended to promote spiritual reflection while providing an opportunity for fellowship.

This year’s theme is the Amazing Grace found in these stories: Isaiah and the Suffering Servant, the Prodigal Son, The Blind Man, The Woman and The Well, and the story of Paul.

The church is located at 1 Hillside Road. The event is free and open to the public. A free-will offering will be donated to the missions of the church.



Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors

Find us on [facebook.com/mowattumc](https://www.facebook.com/mowattumc)

301-474-9410

Pastor Evelyn Romero

In-Person Worship Service 9:30 a.m.

Come as you are



Obituaries

The News Review publishes obituaries of Greenbelt residents, past or present.

You write it or we will if you prefer. We try to include information about participation in various activities and organizations, where the person lived and something about the family. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.

Virginia “Ginny” Zanner

January 7, 1925 - February 28, 2023

Funeral Mass: Monday, April 3 at 10 a.m. at St. Hugh’s Church. All are welcome.

Celebration of Life: Monday, April 3 at 1 p.m. at Greenbelt Arts Center.

The Bible Says...

Lent-Week #5

Your sins have made a separation between you and your God
Isaiah 59:2a



IN PERSON Sunday Worship Services
10a-11:15a @ Greenbelt Elementary School

MCFcc.org

Greenbelt Community Church

One Hillside Road

We are an Open and Affirming Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Join Us Sunday 10:15 AM for Worship and Church School

www.facebook.com/GCCUCCMD
www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY of GREENBELT

MASS

Sundays 10:00 a.m.
City Council Room
25 Crescent Road

ALL ARE WELCOME!

OR - Join us on ZOOM!

For ZOOM link:

FDeBernardo@aol.com

Greenbelt BAPTIST CHURCH

Christ-centered
Biblical
& Reformed

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am

Sunday School 9:15am

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00pm

101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt, MD
www.greenbeltbaptist.org



ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

- Daily Mass: Mon-Fri 7:15am*, Sat 9am*
- Sunday Mass:
 - Sat vigil 5pm*
 - Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am
- Confessions Saturday 3pm – 4pm.
Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.

*Live streamed on Facebook and available on our YouTube page later.

CELEBRATE WITH US

135 Crescent Rd.

www.sthughofgrenoble.org



“World peace is not only possible but inevitable ... Whether peace is to be reached only after unimaginable horrors precipitated by humanity’s stubborn clinging to old patterns of behavior, or is to be embraced now by an act of consultative will, is the choice before all who inhabit the earth.”

– Universal House of Justice



Greenbelt Bahá'í Community

www.greenbeltbahais.org

Mishkan Torah Congregation



10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Friday evening services at 8:00pm

Saturday morning services at 10:00am

Offering hybrid services, online and in-person activities

For further information, call (301) 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org

Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church



3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community



March 26, 2023 at 3:00 pm

Called To Tell the Truth
About Our Country’s History

Rev. Karen Lee Scrivo with Worship Associate Lula Beatty

In this service, we lift up the work of the Equal Justice Initiative and the Prince George’s County Lynching Memorial Project, which educate the public about painful parts of our country’s history and memorialize the victims of racial terror lynchings. It is only by telling the truth about our country’s history that we can hope to build a beloved community of justice for all among ourselves and in the world.

Streaming to our Facebook page, on Zoom and in person at 3:00 at:
University Christian Church, 6800 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD



City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.



GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 7:30 pm

ORGANIZATION

Call to Order
Roll Call
Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
Petitions and Requests
Consent Agenda - Approval of Staff Recommendations (Items on the Consent Agenda [marked by *] will be approved as recommended by staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.)
Approval of Agenda and Additions

COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations
- Arbor Day Proclamation
- Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award
- Proposed FY 2024 Budget Presentation
* Minutes of Council Meetings
- Administrative Reports
* Committee Reports
- Arts Advisory Board Report #23-3 - Greenbelt Recognition Group Recommendation
- Board of Elections Report #2023-02 - (Proposed Code Amendments: Early Voting)
- Board of Elections Report #2023-03 - (Proposed Charter and Code Amendment: Authorizing Noncitizen Voting; Clarifying Appeals and Timing of Vote Counts)

LEGISLATION

- A Resolution of the City Council of the City Greenbelt Granting a Recycling Services Contract Directly to Compost Crew; 2nd Reading, Adoption

OTHER BUSINESS

- Recirculating Car Wash Pilot Program
- Business Infrastructure Fund Grant Program
- Childcare Voucher Program
- Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center Pool Structural Remediation
- Forest Preserve Advisory Board Report #2023-02 - Greenbelt Forest Preserve Ecology Fund
- Forest Preserve Advisory Board Report #2023-01 - Northway Trailhead Erosion
- State and County Legislation
- Council Activities
- Council Reports
* Meetings
* Stakeholders
* Departure Design Standards Resolution 23-007 - 7010 Greenbelt Rd.
* Resignation from Advisory Group
* Reappointment to Advisory Boards/Committees

In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov.

MEETINGS FOR MARCH 27-31

Monday, March 27, **REG COUNCIL MEETING MOVED TO TUESDAY**

Tuesday, March 28 at 7 pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**, On the Agenda: Minutes of February 28, Debrief of Educator Awards from 3/13, Planning Student Awards, Grants Update

Wednesday, March 29 at 7:30 pm, **BUDGET WORK SESSION - OVERVIEW, REVENUES, & GENERAL GOVERNMENT/ OTHER FUNDS/ NON-DEPARTMENTAL & FUND TRANSFERS/ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov. This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call (301) 474-8000. For information on public participation for the meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at greenbeltmd.gov.

GREENBELT EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP GRANT

Application period open through March 31
LAST WEEK TO APPLY!

The purpose of the Greenbelt Education Scholarship grant is to provide assistance for residents interested in furthering their education beyond high school. Scholarships can be used to assist with the cost of college, trade school, or other educational opportunities.

Qualified residents are eligible to receive up to \$10,000 over two years. For more information visit greenbeltmd.gov/scholarship

2023 GREENBELT WELCOME KITS

The City of Greenbelt Welcome Kit is back! This long-standing tradition of providing new Greenbelt residents a physical welcome to the community is in full swing.

The City of Greenbelt, Public Information Office, is now accepting items (flyers, pens, postcards, brochures, tchotchkes, etc.) to be added to the 2023 Welcome Kit for new Greenbelt residents. If you want to include any information about your business, club, or organization, please send 250 promotional items to the address below **by Friday, April 14.**

CITY OF GREENBELT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the City Council will conduct a public hearing on the Charter Resolution of the Council of the City of Greenbelt, to amend §35, City Manager-Appointment; Qualifications; Term of Office; Removal; Acting City Manager, to provide the Council the discretion to permit a City Manager to live outside the City of Greenbelt, and update gender references to the City Manager.

The City Council will hold a public hearing on this charter resolution on **APRIL 1, 2023 AT 10 AM IN THE COUNCIL ROOM** at the Greenbelt Municipal Building located at 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770. Public testimony will be received by the City Council at the hearing on the above date. Written comments may either be presented at this hearing or sent to the City Clerk.

The public is welcome to attend. The Charter Resolution is available online and at the Clerk's office. For more information, please **contact the City Manager's office at (301) 474-8000.**

Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

Request for Proposal

Buddy Attick Park Master Plan

City of Greenbelt RFP No. 2023-03-R

The City of Greenbelt, Maryland, is requesting submission of proposals from all parties wishing to be considered for consulting services related to the City of Greenbelt's Buddy Attick Park Master Plan. The complete Request for Proposal package can be accessed at www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation (beginning Thursday, March 16, 2023) or requested by emailing cpracht@greenbeltmd.gov.

Bids are due by 11 am on Monday, April 18, 2023.

Artful Afternoon Workshop
Sunday, April 2, 1 - 3pm, FREE, all age
Greenbelt Community Center, Ground Floor East, 25 Crescent Rd.

Create 3-D, hanging, paper sculptures with artist Barbara Joann Combs

Details and sign-up: <http://bit.ly/3ZJSQmd>

GREENBELT RECREATION'S SPRING GUIDE 2023

www.greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide

REGISTRATION DATES:
Residents - March 20 at 10 am
Non- Residents - March 26 at 10 am

Green Ridge House Opens Wait List

Green Ridge House, the City of Greenbelt's HUD Section 8-202 apartment building, will open its waiting list from Monday, April 10 thru 14, 2023 from 9 am to 4 pm. Green Ridge House is an independent living apartment building located at 22 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770. **All applicants must apply in person and be 62 years of age or older. All applicants must have with them a valid State ID or Driver's License and their Social Security card. We cannot accept an application without these two items.** All applicants will have a credit and criminal background check performed to determine eligibility. Applicants should be prepared to move within 30 days once they receive a call that a unit is available. Rent is based upon 30 percent of one's income within a maximum gross income of \$49,850 for individuals and \$56,950 for couples. All apartments are one-bedroom units. Only applicants who would consider moving within the next 6 months to one year should apply. Green Ridge House is a Non-Smoking Building.



GREENBELT MICRO GRANTS

The City of Greenbelt Micro Grant is a one-time, matching, reimbursable grant intended to be a resident-led initiative to build community and engage new people across neighborhoods. This is a one-time, reimbursable grant funded through the American Rescue Plan Act to help communities move beyond the COVID pandemic and to broaden Greenbelt's connections to all its neighborhoods and residents. HOA'S, Condominium Associations, Apartment Complexes, GHI Co-op, and Community Coalitions registered as 501 (c) 3 are eligible to apply for one of three types of grants, 1) Community Event Grant, 2) Neighborhood Communication Grant, and 3) Neighborhood Improvement Grant.

To learn more about and apply for the grant opportunities, please visit <https://forms.monday.com/forms/7575c04647a68ad4ff464c00401f684d?r=use1>

FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYERS GRANT PROGRAM

Find out more about the City of Greenbelt First-Time Homebuyers grant program today! The grant funds can be used for closing costs and/or down payment for FHA, VA, USDA, FNMA, or Freddie Mac loans. <http://ow.ly/xlKZ50My327>

ENGAGE GREENBELT

For all up-to-date ARPA program updates including mortgage assistance programs, scholarships, first-time homebuyer grant programs, small business assistance, and more visit www.engagegreenbelt.org.

BIKE TO WORK DAY.

GREENBELT PIT STOP.,

GAFC PARKING LOT

FRIDAY, MAY 19 6:30 - 8:30 AM.

Registration is open and free!
www.biketoworkmetrodc.org

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20 DE ABRIL, 11 AM - 1 PM
CENTRO RECREATIVO DE
SPRINGHILL LAKE
6101 Cherrywood Lane

Para residentes oeste de Greenbelt. SOLO 50 ESPACIOS DISPONIBLES.

NON-PROFIT RECOVERY GRANT

The City of Greenbelt has begun accepting applications from eligible nonprofit organizations for a one time "recovery" grant made possible through the allocation of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Qualified nonprofits will be eligible to apply for grants up to \$25,000, as allowed by ARPA, to address negative impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Funding for this grant program is provided under the American Rescue Plan Act through the U.S. Department of Treasury. Under the U.S. Treasury guidelines, nonprofits eligible for assistance are those that experienced negative economic impacts or disproportionate impacts of the pandemic and meet the definition of "nonprofit" – specifically those that are 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(19) tax-exempt organizations.

To apply, visit <https://app.smarterselect.com/programs/87940-City-Of-Greenbelt>

TREE CANOPY GRANTS

The City of Greenbelt is awarding a one-time, reimbursable grant to go directly towards the purchase of trees to assist homeowners and community organizations with the planting or replacement of trees caused by storm damage, disease or invasive insects. Funding for this grant will be provided through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), and can be used to purchase, install, stake and mulch the area the tree or trees will be planted.

Applications are now open. To apply, visit engagegreenbelt.org or visit <https://forms.monday.com/forms/4a129f7cd3ba497750f3ced54a200b2a?r=use1>.

For questions on the Tree Canopy grant, email treecanopy@greenbeltmd.gov.

Deadline to apply is no later than **June 1, 2023, at 4:30 pm.**

SCHMIDT continued from page 1

Her motivation came after reading celebrated historian Richard Hofstadter’s depiction of agrarian Midwest settlements as made up of anti-intellectual renegades. Knowing better, Schmidt wanted to correct this narrative. This started her down both an academic and activist career path that has focused on and advocated for highlighting important female narratives that had been lost, ignored or misrepresented.

Illuminating the female perspective is somewhat of a new phenomenon. It is only within the last few decades that stories from historically marginalized groups such as women, indigenous cultures and others have gained more attention. While most narratives throughout history have been told through the perspective of white men, Schmidt says that the social movements of the 1960s started a much-needed paradigm shift.

The current political climate is polarizing and people are competing for narrative dominance, Schmidt said. Many still want to hold onto the strong, patriarchal individualist storyline that has dominated much of history. Dominant accounts are starting to show some cracks, she says, and it’s becoming increasingly hard to lock out other previously marginalized narratives.

Figuring out how to respond to these changes is not easy, Schmidt notes. She believes the Southern Cheyenne Tribe has it right when it comes to reliance on truth and reconciliation to address conflicts. Ultimately, we must learn to heal as a society,



PHOTO COURTESY EMU

Dr. Kimberly Schmidt

she says, “[but] there can be no healing without truth.” Until this happens, conflict will continue. Yet to hear these truths, one must listen.

Schmidt and other historians are integral in filling in the historical narrative gaps, particularly for the voices and stories that have yet to be heard. Listening to the sources without an agenda and knowing that whatever percolates up in the story is critical to the integrity of such work. This was particularly important when Schmidt was invited by a Cheyenne Peace Chief to write a history of the Southern Cheyenne women, a topic she was not then well-informed about and nervous to undertake. She attributes its success to listening to the stories and to the highly collaborative nature of the project.

The importance of community and the collective is a theme threaded throughout Schmidt’s research. It is the same thread that brought her to Greenbelt. Having lived and raised her family in Hyattsville, Schmidt says

that moving to Greenbelt was an obvious choice. Initially attracted by Old Greenbelt’s recreational amenities, Schmidt ultimately relocated for its community-focused living and strong social networks.

Much like the groups that have been the focus of her research for decades, Schmidt also knows the importance of kinship and community and believes that social networks are stronger in places like Greenbelt. Ultimately this is a place that helps her “live her values,” she says.

Now retired from the classroom, Schmidt can more easily pursue her gardening passion and other hobbies. Yet she continues to travel for the research that interests her, still driven to capture the stories and voices that represent a more inclusive identity in this country.

“History is memory and memory is identity-forming. It’s important to be inclusive and include a plurality of narratives, a plurality of voices,” she says.

This is why she believes budding historians shouldn’t be deterred. There are plenty of ways to parlay one’s love of history into a career, she advises, history being one of the easier liberal arts disciplines to transition into the professional world. Aside from academia and activism, there will always be a need in museums, interpretive sites, national parks, small museums and classrooms across the country, she says.

Ultimately, there will always be stories to tell and the need for people following behind Schmidt and her colleagues to tell them.

Fourth Graders Learn About Every Kid Outdoors Day

by Kevin P. Barry



PHOTO COURTESY GREENBELT PARK

Ranger Barry presents the Guess Your National Parks program in the Greenbelt Elementary School cafeteria.

The Greenbelt Elementary School (GES) fourth graders learned about our national parks when Greenbelt Park Ranger Kevin Barry presented the Guess Your National Parks program in the cafeteria. The presentation included 11 pictures of national parks across the country and the students were asked to guess which park it was. Barry handed out 100 Every Kid Outdoors passes to the students.

The Every Kid Outdoors pass for fourth graders allows students

and their families free access to hundreds of parks, lands and waters through August 31, 2023, and are available at the Greenbelt Park ranger station near the campground. This program will be given again at the park on Sunday, April 23 at 2 p.m.

Every Kid Outdoors creates crucial connections to public lands and inspires a future generation of stewards for America’s spectacular national parks. For more information, visit everykidoutdoors.gov.



It’s time to speak up, reach out and break the stigma about mental health.

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Luminis Health (formerly Anne Arundel Health System) is a nonprofit health system providing care for 1.5 million people in Anne Arundel County, Prince George’s County, the Eastern Shore, and beyond. Our system encompasses nearly 100 sites of care, including Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center, J. Kent McNew Family Medical Center and Pathways in Annapolis, as well as Luminis Health Doctors Community Medical Center and Doctors Community Rehabilitation and Patient Care Center in Lanham.

Dreamlike Collage Featured In Keller’s Show at the Café

by Melissa Sites

Gorgeous dreamlike images, like gateways into a realm of symbolism, are products of local artist and teacher Racquel Keller in her one-artist show, An Invented Narrative, at the New Deal Café through April 20, with an artist’s reception on Sunday, April 2.

“I like to give titles that might make people work a little bit, to stop and think about it,” Keller said of her work, which includes storytelling and dream logic similar to fairy tales. “Fairy tales are very good for children,” she said, teaching them about adversity, perseverance and problem solving. Keller enjoys challenging all her viewers with these mysterious, highly symbolic collage and assemblage pieces.

For Keller, painting is quick and easy, but collage work slows her down, becoming a more meditative experience. In the notes to the show, Keller talks about her process of gathering elements that are symbolic of the subject matter she is working with. She also uses metallic elements to highlight some pieces, including the small but striking piece entitled At A Certain Hour The River Shines Gold And For A Moment We Believe In Fairy Tales. Golden rays emanate from the head of a seated female figure from whom a shining golden river flows. This piece, like many in the show, makes perfect use of a vintage frame. It hangs next to a piece entitled For The Last Time Medusa Told Her Sister She Didn’t Want A Surprise Party, which uses a gorgeous antique gilt frame and beautiful brocade fabric around figures of two women – one of whom is subtly wreathed in serpent hair and one who is now spilling her tray of party food since she has been turned to stone. Keller’s sensual delight in the work’s physical elements is spiced with wry humor and executed with exquisite balance and artistic judgement. She likes poetry and odd juxtapositions, saying, “Some of them I just put together because they amuse me. I try to weave all my media together; my hope is to allow the evidence of the disparate pieces to become secondary, to disappear like magic.” She deftly completes the collage pieces using her skill as a painter.

Diners in the Café’s front room will be treated to a series of six colorful pieces over the sofa. These small, exquisite pieces are full of life and wonder. On the wall facing the front door are two assemblages on very serious subjects – one a gorgeous tribute to peace in Ukraine and one a solemn remembrance of the moments the planes crashed on 9/11.

Teaching
Keller now balances a full schedule at Montgomery College, where she teaches Introduction to Oil Painting, Introduction to Acrylic Painting, Intermediate Painting and Abstract Painting, with residencies up to a month long where she immerses herself in her work. “I thought I needed at least two weeks,” Keller said, but then recounted an amazing four-day weekend in Paris, where she gained admission to the Louvre study room and participated in a day-long workshop at the



For The Last Time Medusa Told Her Sister She Didn’t Want A Surprise Party

Fragonard Museum. The four days felt like a week and were just as rejuvenating as a longer trip. Doing these residencies and working on collage are related; she explained, “Part of it is so that I have something for myself because I teach so much. I feel there is a lot of energy put out to [my students], but collage is a personal thing for me. It enables me to dream and imagine a little, like putting together a puzzle when you don’t have the cover of the box. Serendipity plays a huge part. The clearer I am with my idea, the more things are revealed to me. There are little secrets I like to build in that only a few are privy to.”

Most of the pieces in the show are fairly recent. “The pandemic has made me realize life is short, and I should just do things,” Keller said.



At A Certain Hour The River Shines Gold And For A Moment We Believe In Fairy Tales

- Photos by Melissa Sites

She grew up in Virginia and completed her schooling at American University after taking community college courses while working, and studying whatever interested her. For many years she worked at a law firm, then got a job at the Phillips Collection, working her way up from security guard and shop attendant, to now curating shows there. She and her husband own a house in Glenn Dale, situated on an acre of land with mature trees.

For Keller, collage is a message: “Take this gift from the world that says slow down.” She hopes the show will spur interesting conversations for people who come to see it and recommends that viewers consider the titles as integral parts of experiencing the artwork.



Colorful pieces by Keller hang above the sofa at the New Deal Café.



A pink magnolia tree blooms in front of the New Deal Café.

PHOTO BY CAMILA LUCHSINGER



One of the collages by Racquel Keller

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COMING SOON TO GAC:
THE MOUNTAINTOP

EDUCATORS continued from page 1

teaching for 26 years, beginning her teaching career in the Philippines. Since then, she has taught elementary school children on Native American reservations in Arizona and worked in Maryland as a special education and general education elementary teacher. She was lauded for her teamwork, for promoting growth mindsets in her students, for her positive attitude, professionalism and dedication. She has received numerous awards, including the Salindunong Award for outstanding educators in the Philippines.

“Teaching is not just my job; this is my passion,” said Rivera at the meeting. “I believe education has the power to transform lives and communities.” Rivera said she strives to encourage students and to empower them as lifelong learners and responsible citizens. “I believe education is a collaborative effort and I want to thank my students for their willingness to learn and to grow alongside me. [...] It’s a privilege to be their teacher.”

LaTrena Turner

LaTrena Turner is a 21-year veteran teacher who has been with Prince George’s County Public Schools for four years. She has taught at both the elementary and secondary level, with her primary focus in English language arts, history and public speaking. Turner has served as dean of students, new teacher mentor, equity lead teacher, professional development lead teacher, drama club sponsor and cheerleader and track coach. As the Equity and Culture Awareness liaison, she led the Magnolia Elementary community in deep conversations regarding equity in their professional practices, procedures and policies. “As a proud native of Jackson, Mississippi, Ms. Turner uses her Southern Charm to warm the hearts of her students, parents and colleagues,” reported ACE member Jenni Pompei. “Ms. Turner has continued to push our thinking regarding equity and culture awareness in order to support our students and community. Ms. Turner’s wealth of knowledge and understanding of best instructional practices shines through during collaborations with colleagues, informal hallway discussions and professional developments,” shared Pompei.

“This isn’t possible without my colleagues, without my principal believing in me and giving me all of the various opportunities, without my students, without my parents, so I share this award, this moment of recognition with them. Because my star is shining today but it absolutely would not be able to shine without the people around me,” said Turner.

Jasmine Giddings

Jasmine Giddings is an instructional lead teacher at Greenbelt Elementary who ensures teachers are supported. “Whether it is through a demo lesson, informal observation and coaching, or a professional development, Ms. Giddings actively shares what she knows about instructional best practices,” reported Stephenie Arcido of ACE. She works to recognize students’ achievements, including shout-outs for class and grade level achievements in reading and interventions. Giddings was praised for modeling “punctuality, preparation and prudent decision-making in the academic environment

for both staff and students on a daily basis,” for leading collaborative planning, providing direct instruction and interacting with students throughout the school. “Ms. Giddings is one of the best Greenbelt Greyhounds you will find,” reported Arcido.

“As a two-time ACE recipient you can tell that hard work and dedication thrive in what I do every single day. Education is a passion of mine and has been since I was a young child,” said Giddings. She thanked the city, ACE, her colleagues, families and students.

Dr. Tyrone McNeal

Dr. Tyrone McNeal is a library media specialist at Dora Kennedy French Immersion (DKFI). He was described as a collaborative and collegial educator, who commands respect from students, has them laughing with silly jokes and is a supportive colleague, always going above and beyond his duties to help teachers in need. “I don’t know what DKFI would do without him,” said a colleague. “The administration team of DKFI considers Dr. McNeal to be an unsung gem of an educator, willing to pitch in to offer his time, resources, intellectual prowess to advance the academic and social culture of DKFI,” reported Arcido.

James Spence, principal of DKFI, was present at the meeting. He described McNeal as a gem and an unsung hero. “I didn’t know I had a genius as a library media specialist,” said Spence. “He has degrees upon degrees and certifications upon certifications and he’s even working on one now.” McNeal sent his greetings but was unable to attend the meeting due to illness. “He has been having some health challenges and he still shows up every day,” said Spence. “He not only shows up, but he volunteers his time. So when I have teachers who are not present or teachers who have to leave he says, ‘No, just bring them to the Library and Media Center. I will work with them,’” said Spence. “I’m thankful for him and I’d like to say that publicly,” said Spence, who also thanked ACE.

Dr. Joan Jackson

“When discussing what it means to be an educator and being acknowledged by the City of Greenbelt, a big question to ask is how do you impact the community? When thinking about the community, there is no other person that impacts the Greenbelt community bigger than Greenbelt Middle School’s community schools coordinator, Dr. Joan Jackson,” reported ACE’s Robert Snyder. “Dr. Jackson has a wealth of experience that ranges from teaching to instructional leadership and even administration,” he said, “though her biggest impact has been as community schools coordinator.” Snyder noted that Jackson has collaborated with organizations to help school projects that range from mentoring programs, mental health services, food distributions, recycling programs, support for homeless students/families and international community support for students who speak different languages. She also began a tutoring program at Greenbelt Middle that focuses on students struggling with academic progress and attendance. “She is fabulous to our school and the Greenbelt community,” Snyder reported from

her colleagues.

Jackson expressed thanks for the award and noted that, as the community coordinator, she says she knows it does take a village to raise a child. “Coming from looking at mental health, attendance, food disparities, economic disparities, this is a daunting job,” said Jackson. “I can tell you it is a reward to know that every single day I go to work, I touch the lives of someone and make a huge difference in their lives every day. So, I thank you for acknowledging and recognizing my talents,” she said.

Charles Mills

Charles Mills has been a math teacher at Eleanor Roosevelt High School for 11 years. He is the head of the math department and the women’s lacrosse coach. He was described as hard-working and conscientious about his teaching and as going above and beyond expectations. During recent teacher shortages and pandemic challenges, Mills has taken over unassigned classes and spent his planning and lunch periods working with students who have fallen behind, reported Robert Snyder of ACE. “He’s a problem solver and a team player. He is a vital part of the Greenbelt community, and truly deserves the Greenbelt ACE Educators Award,” submitted his colleagues.

Mills thanked his nominators, the city and everyone at Eleanor Roosevelt. “I would like to add an extra special thank you to the community of Greenbelt for sending such wonderful students, being so warm and inviting. Such a wonderful place that once I got here I actually decided to eventually move here and become part of it myself, because it was such a wonderful community,” said Mills.

The ACE Committee, Greenbelt City Council, County Council Member Ingrid Watson and School Board Representative Jonathan Briggs presented certificates to this year’s ACE Educator Award recipients. ACE presented an engraved red-and-gold apple to each award winner, along with an ACE T-shirt that they are invited to wear to walk with ACE in the Labor Day Parade. They also received certificates of recognition from the city, the county and the state.

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Spotlight on Women

Sharelle Stagg: She’s the Heart Of Greenbelt Elementary School

by Jenni Pompei

Sharelle Stagg always knew she wanted to be an educator. “I’ve always loved school, even from a very young age,” she said in an interview with the Greenbelt News Review. Vice Principal of Greenbelt Elementary School (GES), Stagg grew up in a military family, so she moved several times as a child but school was always her constant. One of four girls, she said, “My sisters would often joke and tease me that when we had a day off of school, I’d be unhappy.”

Stagg attended the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, where she majored in English and education. As a Humanities Scholar, she received a full scholarship for her undergraduate work. She next attended Bowie State University, where she earned a master’s degree in special education.

Though she considered becoming a social worker for a time, she ultimately decided to pursue a career as an educator because of the many impactful teachers in her own life. “I really recognized the power of education and how much that can change the trajectory of someone’s life, having access to quality education – what a difference that could make,” she said.

In 2004, Stagg began her career with Prince George’s County Public Schools (PGCPS), first as a general educator at Forest Heights Elementary, then as a special education teacher at Valley View Elementary. She’s been vice principal of Greenbelt Elementary for the past seven years, but when she started her career 19 years ago, she never intended to leave the classroom, saying, “I really enjoyed building relationships with students and parents.”

After she was nominated and won PGCPS Teacher of the Year in 2012, her then-principal told Stagg, “I see great leadership in you.” From there, Stagg said, new possibilities were opened to her that lead her to become an administrator at GES. “I wanted to remain close to the classroom because it is where I believe the real work happens,” she said. “Working with and supporting the teachers is also important. I



Sharelle Stagg

think I’ve figured out ways to approach the assistant principal role to be really tapped into what’s going on in the classroom and remain tapped into the students.”

During her time at GES, Stagg has used her background in special education to help develop the school’s autism program and to increase the school’s ability to provide supports and interventions for students who are not meeting educational targets. She also plays an important role in the hiring process and is proud of the team she and Principal Joel Nelson and the former GES principal have built. “Our team genuinely cares about each other and works well together,” she said, something teacher Stagg said candidates notice when interviewing at the school.


When asked what makes GES special, Stagg was quick to respond, “The diversity and creativity of our students. They are excited to learn and share what they know and that makes a good learning environment.” She also cited the strong parent and community support for the school. “Greenbelt has a great level of pride and trust in the school,” she said, “that really makes a difference because the community believes in the school and trusts the professionals, there’s a really solid relationship.”

Recently, a group reached out to ask about reviving the school’s pollinator garden and is now working with the school’s Green Team to make that a reality. “We really welcome and value that community involvement,” Stagg said.

When she’s not working, Stagg loves to read, go to the movies and spend time with her Yorkie-Poo, Ivy. Service is also very important to her, and she volunteers through her sorority, AKA, and Mt. Zion United Methodist Church. She is also a proud and involved aunt to her nieces and nephews, six of whom are PGCPS graduates. “I took an active role in supporting them and their education,” said Stagg. “It’s amazing to see them grow up. That’s a big part of who I am.”

Green Ridge House Opens Wait List

Green Ridge House, the City of Greenbelt’s HUD Section 8-202 apartment building, will open its waiting list from Monday, April 10 thru 14, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Green Ridge House is an independent living apartment building located at 22 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770. All applicants must apply in person and be 62 years of age or older. **All applicants must have with them a valid State ID or Driver’s License and their Social Security card. We cannot accept an application without these two items.** All applicants will have a credit and criminal background check performed to determine eligibility. Applicants should be prepared to move within 30 days once they receive a call that a unit is available. Rent is based on 30 percent of one’s income within a maximum gross income of \$49,850 for individuals and \$56,950 for couples. All apartments are one-bedroom units. Only applicants who would consider moving within the next 6 months to one year should apply. Green Ridge House is a Non-Smoking Building.



Municipal Election Procedures: Change, Discussion and Debate

by Susan Taylor

The last municipal election in November 2021 was a rocky road (see multiple articles in the News Review, November 11, 2021) and the Greenbelt Board of Elections has been consulting and meeting regularly since then with other local jurisdictions, potential election services vendors, members of the public and the Greenbelt City Council.

In an open worksession on February 8, the board and council discussed potential changes to Greenbelt’s election processes and procedures for November 2023 and beyond. Some changes only require a change of vendor, while others need amendments to the city charter and election code.

What May Change?

Some of the possibilities discussed for change include: paper ballots vs. voting machines; the timing of elections and early voting; mailing out ballots to all voters rather than by request only; accessibility concerns; technology to verify voting quickly to allow voters to exercise their rights in any polling station; using Prince George’s County Board of Elections vs. reestablishing a local Greenbelt system for maintaining voter rolls; term limits; term lengths; electing the mayor directly and councilmembers by district, or remaining with the at-large system that allows the newly elected council to appoint the mayor and mayor pro tem (traditionally done by the number of election votes); procedures to fill mid-term council vacancies; and voting for residents who are not U.S. citizens.

Schedule

Established by city charter, the Board of Elections is tasked with planning, budgeting, specifying procedures and running municipal elections in Greenbelt, traditionally on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November every two years, alternating with state and national elections.

Vendors and Costs

The Board of Elections is recommending that, like other local jurisdictions, the city use multiple vendors for specific aspects of the election. Council and vendors want to get these decisions early and the board expects to send budgetary requests soon.

Cost concerns include creating ballot stations, ballot boxes and seals, Spanish translators at the polls and perhaps increased pay for election judges. Budget increases are related to the mission of increasing election participation.

In any case, this fall city voters will use paper ballots that are scanned and tabulated rather than voting machines.

Distribution to Voters

The election problems of 2021 were not unique to Greenbelt, and other local municipalities have begun to use Fort Orange Press as a consultant to print and mail ballots to local voters. Each ballot is in English and Spanish with an individualized bar code for tracking. The board is using College Park (which mails ballots to all registered voters) data to estimate cost.

Technology for Flexibility

Multiple technologies can provide improved election access options and the board is assess-

ing vote tabulating scanners for accessibility (audio and touch screens for hands and straws) already in use in Takoma Park.

Also under consideration for flexibility are poll pads that use cellular technology to communicate every two minutes among polling stations to track whose ballots have been cast, allowing voters to vote in any precinct. Making voting more location-flexible may help increase participation. These machines would be tested for cellular coverage in the various areas in Greenbelt prior to a decision. The poll pads can also accommodate rank choice voting if that is required.

Voter Records

While Greenbelt once kept its own voter registry, recently this crucial activity has been performed by the county – but with concerns over accuracy. Relocating voter registration into the city government, however, would require staff and budgetary adjustments.

Scheduling, Early Voting

Last election, Greenbelt voters used early in-person voting less than other methods (at 15 percent, a distant third to mail-in and election-day voting). Early voting for most of the month of October has been the recent norm.

For 2023, the board is consulting with vendors for creative and equitable access while condensing early voting to one weekend and fewer locations. Council, the board and community members all emphasized clear and simple communication of options to voters. More limited early voting would require only a code amendment rather than a city charter change.

Mayor Emmett Jordan stressed that “things can happen” and that voters should know they can always demand a provisional ballot, at the polls on election day. The board is working on more effective communication with poll workers and judges to overcome 2021 election difficulties.

While other local municipalities hold elections on Sundays, the board and council favor keeping Greenbelt’s election on the traditional Tuesday. As Councilmember Judith Davis noted, Greenbelt voters “always know that there is an election on Election Day.... Might as well just keep it.”

Voting for All Residents

Council asked the board to investigate the question of extending voting for city elections to all Greenbelt residents.

Jordan proposed putting this question to the voters as a ballot question on November’s election.

Rank Choice, Term Limits

Currently Greenbelt elects seven councilmembers at large every two years. Although there is a strong desire to have representation from all areas of the city, there are no geographical districts.

Rank choice voting allows voters to indicate both a vote for, or against, any specific candidate, and the order of preference. While many other state and local jurisdictions have moved to rank choice voting, the concept is not widely used and understood in this area. Board member Steve

Gilbert described the Greenbelt conundrum. “Rank choice voting works when you have one office that people are voting on ... with a large number of offices, it gets administratively complex.”

Board member Beth Terry suggested one-way rank choice voting could be used in Greenbelt is to allow voters to state their preference for mayor and mayor pro tem.

In the current system, the newly-elected council has traditionally selected as mayor and mayor pro tem, respectively, the individual getting the highest and second highest vote tally. Weaver suggested that the current system is “an inefficient method” for voters to have their say.

In 2011, council membership was increased from five to seven members. At the worksession, council briefly discussed equity of representation, at-large vs. district representation, a separate mayoral election, staggered terms and four-year terms – with no conclusion. There was little discussion of term limits as a separate issue.

Council Vacancies

The Greenbelt city charter states that any council vacancies must be filled “as soon as possible,” but there’s no specific procedure. The charter and code would need to be amended to specify the timing and process.

College Park and New Carrollton have a tiered two-year term approach: if a seat is vacant for more than 180 days there’s a special election; for 90 to 180 days the city council and the mayor appoint; and under 90 days the seat is left vacant.

Jordan’s remarks balanced desire for expediency, voter participation and “being thoughtful” about staff time and money in holding a special election. He remained convinced that council appointing “in consultation with the public and public hearings ... can make a decent choice.”

Councilmember Colin Byrd spoke strongly against appointing, noting that, “I just have a strong position against, even in a six-month period, council appointing ... giving a particular person an incumbency advantage.”

Discussion focused on balancing fairness and participation of voters in the process versus the perception of influence in smoke-filled rooms, potential deadlocking and the costs and complexity of a special election to the city. Council chose to defer any decision on this matter.

Spring Recreation Class Registration

Registration is now open to Greenbelt residents for Greenbelt Recreation’s 2023 spring classes. Nonresident registration opens on Monday, March 27. Programs are available for all ages, including visual arts, dance, sports, music and more. Inclusion services and financial assistance are available.

For information about the classes and the registration process, see the Activity Guide at greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide.



VOTING continued from page 1

citizenship requires many steps and “money, a lot of money,” she repeatedly stated, “I could not support this.”

Councilmember Kristen Weaver spoke passionately about the large number of dedicated and involved residents who may not yet have citizenship because “our immigration system is broken.”

Councilmember Rodney Roberts expressed the opinion that only citizens should be able to vote in federal and state elections, and that non-citizen residents should live in Greenbelt for “more than a year” to be “educated about the community” before being offered the right to vote in municipal elections.

Because of Greenbelt’s reliance on the county board of elections, a separate registry would need to be set up within city administration. Both Hyattsville and Takoma Park have larger staff and bigger budgets.

Resident Robert Goldberg-Strassler stated that approximately 50 persons in this category voted in Hyattsville’s last election. Hyattsville only requires 30 days residency to register, as Greenbelt does for citizen voters.

A slim majority of Greenbelt residents (by a question on the 2021 election survey) have spoken favorably on this. Jordan proposed putting this question to the voters as a ballot question in November’s election.



PHOTO BY JOE ROBBINS

A vulture takes a sunbath in the early morning.



Rumor said that
"Print was
dead."
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This ad is \$42.

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3/14/2023



10/06/2020

RIP Lucky-One

Lucky-One has joined Lucky-Too across the Rainbow Bridge. They lived a long happy life together. Lucky-One loved hanging out with neighbors or wagging/waving at you passing his fence or strolling around town. He will be missed.

RIP TooToo (Lucky-Too)

After 10 years of fun and joy at the library end of town, he's crossed over the Rainbow Bridge. He leaves behind his best bud, Lucky-One and very sad owner and neighbors. Previous residence, Greenbelt Animal Shelter. TooToo was about 15 years old. He will be missed by many.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Bring Your Own Bag Law Gains Support of Council

by Diane Oberg

At a March 8 worksession, the Greenbelt City Council took the first steps toward prohibiting city businesses from using single-use film carryout bags and requiring merchants to charge a fee for paper bags to encourage customers to bring reusable bags from home. The fee for paper bags would likely be 10 to 15 cents and would be retained by the merchant to offset the extra cost of paper bags.

The next step is for the city to draft a Bring Your Own Bag ordinance, modeled on the recommendations of the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability (Green ACES), as a starting point to work out certain details. The city has already received a number of comments from local businesses and others.

Proposal

The Green ACES proposal would apply to all Greenbelt establishments selling goods including grocery stores, restaurants, department stores and small businesses. It would cover only single-use plastic film bags given at the point of sale. It would not cover bags used to contain bulk items such as produce, nuts, grains, candy or small hardware items, fresh meat or seafood, flowers, potted plants or other damp items. Also exempt would be bags used to contain unwrapped prepared foods or bakery goods, dry-cleaning, or the bag used to bring goldfish home from a pet shop. Compostable plastic bags would not be allowed under the Green ACES proposal since these do not decompose in standard composting processes, but require high temperature commercial composting procedures.

Merchants would also be prohibited from using thicker film carryout bags that can be used more than once as the goal is to reduce plastic usage. In practice, the committee reported, such bags are generally only used once.

Retailers may switch to paper bags, but would be required to charge a fee of at least a specified amount, probably 10 or 15 cents. The fee is intended to encourage the use of fabric or other reusable bags not made of plastic film, and not just to switch customers back to paper bags. John Lippert, Green ACES chair, noted that unlike a tax that would go to the government, the merchant would keep the proceeds of the fee. It is intended to offset the cost of the bags, according to the recommendations. The committee recommended there be no exceptions to the fee and that merchants would not be able to waive it for customers.

The committee recommended a six-month transition period to allow businesses to exhaust their bag inventories and to educate their customers on the new ordinance.

Why?

The committee says the ordinance is needed to reduce plastic pollution of the land and waterways, and reduce the threat to human health and wildlife. The bags can degrade into microplastics. Green ACES estimates that Greenbelt residents use about nine million plastic carryout bags annually.

Lore Rosenthal noted that the bags are made from petroleum, so they are also part of fossil fuel driven climate change.

Several nearby jurisdictions have already passed laws either banning plastic bags or charging a fee for some or all single-use bags, including College Park, Takoma Park, Montgomery and Howard counties and the District of Columbia. Prince George's County and the state of Maryland have considered bag bills, but have not yet passed legislation.

Enforcement

Terri Hruby, director of planning and community development, said that enforcement of the plastic bag ban would be straightforward as inspectors could observe the issuing of a plastic bag. Enforcement of the fee on paper bags would most likely require a customer to sign an affidavit that they were not charged the fee. Hruby plans to discuss enforcement with other jurisdictions that have such a fee requirement in place.

Lippert noted that the Maryland Restaurant Association has requested an exception.

Council Comments

Councilmember Rodney Roberts questioned the exception for hardware items and meat, recalling the days when meats were wrapped in butcher paper rather than plastic. Sometimes, he noted, we have to say "enough is enough." He also suggested reusable bags made of environmentally-friendly materials such as hemp.

While all councilmembers indicated support for banning plastic bags, they were not necessarily 100 percent on board with all of the details. However, they agreed on the need for a transition period.

Mayor Emmett Jordan noted that at least one jurisdiction exempted small businesses with less than four locations. Councilmember Silke Pope wanted to hear from restaurants. Jordan said his goal is to take a medium approach consistent with nearby jurisdictions, and noted that a regional model would be better. Councilmember Judith Davis worried that if Greenbelt enacted a fee on paper bags, customers would shop with their feet and go to stores in jurisdictions without such a fee. She said that charging a bag fee could be difficult for some merchants, especially small businesses. Roberts doubted that customers would actually do this for such a small expense.

Councilmembers also appeared to agree that a significant education effort is needed before any bag legislation goes into effect both for merchants and customers.

Public Comment

An anonymous Zoom participant said that the ban on plastic bags would be a problem for folks taking public transit and stopping at a store on the way home. Such a customer could not take a reusable bag with them, this person said, and paper bags would be more difficult to carry on the bus. Jordan and others noted that some reusable bags can be folded to be very small, such as would fit into a pocket or purse. Councilmember Kristen Weaver pointed out that there are paper bags with handles.

Brendan Mahoney, of the Restaurant Association of Maryland, said that restaurants do not want to charge a fee. He said that they cannot allow the use of reusable bags due to

See COUNCIL, page 15



PHOTO COURTESY GREENBELT POLICE

Officer Richard Millien, right, is sworn in by Mayor Emmett Jordan on March 15. Officer Millien graduated from the Carroll County Sheriff's Training Academy last week. He is the nephew of GPD's Corporal Carlos Torres and joins the department as a bilingual officer.



PHOTO BY STEVE BUCCA

Bradford pears are blooming like crazy along Hanover Parkway, beside Eleanor Roosevelt High School.



Snack and Root for the Lady Terps in Sweet 16!

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Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred from March 13 through March 19. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an inquiry. Remember: if you see something, say something! Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email pd@greenbeltmd.gov. Note that the times provided are when the incidents were reported.

Handgun and Narcotics Arrest

On March 17 at 1:58 a.m. near Southway/Baltimore-Washington Parkway, officers conducted a traffic stop for driving without a front tag. During a probable cause search of the car, officers located a stolen Ruger Security-9 handgun and 68 illegally possessed opium narcotics ready for sale. The driver was prohibited from possessing a firearm or ammunition. The driver, a 35-year-old man of Capitol Heights was arrested on 17 charges for handgun violations, possession with intent to distribute violations and drug trafficking.

Carjacking

On March 14 at 11:54 p.m. near 6400 Capitol Drive, officers responded to an armed carjacking. The victim reported a black sedan with tinted windows pulled in front of the victim's 2015 Hyundai Sonata (N.C. plate KBB4335) and two men got out. The first suspect was wearing a red hoodie and a ski mask and the second was wearing all black and a ski mask; both were armed with black handguns. The first suspect pointed the gun at the victim and demanded she get out of the car. Both suspects then got into the victim's car and drove away. A third suspect drove the black sedan but there is no description due to the car's tint. On March 16 at 8:38 p.m. near 7600 Greenbelt Road, officers responded to an Exxon gas station for a carjacking. The victim reported two males, possibly teenagers, wearing all black and ski masks displayed a handgun and demanded the victim empty his pockets. The suspects took the victim's keys to a black Mercedes-Benz C300 (Md. plate 3CJ4778) and fled down Hanover Parkway towards Good Luck Road.

Assault

On March 13 at 7:23 p.m. near 7500 Greenbelt Road, a 14-year-old girl was walking with her family when a group of women inside a dark-colored vehicle approached them and asked where were they from, at which time a female wearing a white jacket exited the vehicle and punched the girl in the face, arm and back. The woman got back into the vehicle and fled the area in an unknown direction. The victim did not know the women, and did not require any medical attention. On March 16 at 3:10 a.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a security officer heard people fighting on top of the roof and a man fell through the ceiling. Officers did not locate anyone on the roof and the 24-year-old man was transported to a local hospital with serious injuries. On March 16 at 2:55 p.m. near 7700 Hanover Parkway, a victim

reported two unknown middle school-aged boys approached her and asked if she had any money. The two males then proceeded to strike the victim in the face. The victim was able to push the boys away and they ran towards the Spellman Overpass. The boys are described as a Black middle school-aged boy with a thin build, approximately 4'8", wearing dark clothes, and another Black middle school-aged boy with a medium build, approximately 4'8", also wearing dark clothes. On March 18 at 12:08 p.m. near 15 Crescent Road, a 14-year-old boy was assaulted by two unknown teenagers while he was outside the Youth Center.

Juvenile Complaint

On March 15 at 4:33 p.m. near 9200 Springhill Lane, officers responded to the 9200 block of Springhill Lane for the report of juveniles smoking controlled substances. Upon arrival, officers saw a group of teenagers in and around a gray Kia with its right rear window shattered. Once the group noticed the officer, they ran. The officer was able to take the 15-year-old boy who was sitting in the driver's seat into custody after a short foot chase. The Kia also had damage to the steering wheel column, consistent with damages made while stealing the car. The officers contacted the owner of the Kia who confirmed it had been stolen. The 15-year-old was charged with unlawful taking of a motor vehicle and malicious destruction of property. The 15-year-old had been arrested by the police previously, once for attempted theft of auto on February 17 and once for a robbery on October 19, 2022.

Break-in

On March 16 at 4:12 p.m. near 6200 Springhill Drive, a sliding glass door's glass was smashed, nothing taken.

DUI Arrests

On March 18 at 1:59 a.m. near Kenilworth Avenue/Capital Beltway and on March 18 at 2:34 a.m. near 9100 Springhill Lane.

Fraud

On March 13 at 9:47 a.m. near 7900 Mandan Road, identity theft; at 12:25 p.m. near 9100 Edmonston Court, EBT fraud. On March 15 at 2:36 p.m. near 7300 Hanover Parkway, check fraud. On March 16 at 9:13 a.m. near 8100 Lakecrest Drive, identity theft; at 7:49 p.m. near 6800 Landon Court, identity theft.

Shoplifting

On March 13 at 1:05 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, commercial theft; at 1:09 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, commercial theft.

Theft

On March 15 at 1:15 p.m. near 7800 Hanover Parkway,

package theft; at 3:32 p.m. near 6200 Greenbelt Road, commercial theft; at 6:13 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, commercial theft. On March 17 at 2:18 p.m. near 6200 Greenbelt Road, commercial theft. On March 18 at 7:22 p.m. near Morrison Drive/Frankfort Drive, as victim was selling his MacBook Pro via Facebook Marketplace, a potential buyer arrived at his residence for the exchange, and the buyer grabbed the laptop and ran without paying for it. On March 18 at 9:52 p.m. near 7500 Greenway Center Drive, immigration fraud scheme.

Vandalism

On March 16 at 10:18 p.m. near 6000 Springhill Drive, the rear window of a vacant unit was shattered. Officers cleared the residence and notified management. On March 17 at 4:24 p.m. near Research Road, a plexiglass pane on a Little Free Library was broken.

Vehicle Crimes Attempted Auto Theft

On March 13 at 11:24 a.m. near 5900 Cherrywood Terrace, a Kia Sorento had the rear passenger-side window broken and the ignition damaged. On March 16 at 3:00 p.m. near 6400 Cherrywood Lane, a Kia Optima was found with the rear window shattered and the ignition damaged. The car was towed for safekeeping. Officers contacted the persons assigned the parking spot and they stated that their car, a black 2017 Kia Sportage (Md. plate 5CK6868) should have been there, and reported it stolen. On

March 18 at 9:20 a.m. near 9100 Edmonston Court, a 2013 Kia Soul had the passenger window broken and damage to the ignition consistent with someone attempting to steal the vehicle.

Stolen Vehicles

Vehicles stolen: On March 13 at 11:40 a.m. near 7500 Greenway Center Drive, a blue 2018 Kia Optima (Md. plate 3DL6740); on March 14 at 5:53 p.m. near 9100 Edmonston Court, a 2011 black Hyundai Sonata (Md. plate 4FG0869); on March 15 at 12:51 a.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a blue 2020 Hyundai Accent (Md. plate 9FC2087); on March 16 at 10:03 a.m. near 6100 Breezewood Court, a 2020 silver Toyota Camry (Md. plate 2FF9433) was stolen after it was left unlocked with the keys in the ignition; On March 18 at 9:37 a.m. near 7500 Mandan Road, a red Ford Focus (Md. plate 6AF9295) was stolen.

Theft from Auto

Three catalytic converters were stolen: On March 13 at 8:16 a.m. near 9100 Edmonston Court from a 2018 Nissan van; at 10:28 a.m. near 6200 Springhill Drive from a 2017 Chevrolet van; at 3:17 p.m. near 6100 Breezewood Drive, from a 2020 Nissan work van. On March 14 at 2:43 p.m. near 7800 Hanover Parkway, all four rims and tires were stolen from a 2022 Nissan Sentra. On March 15 at 10:53 a.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, the front license plate was stolen. On March 16 at 2:07 p.m. near Greenbelt Station Parkway/South Center Drive, a passenger

window was broken and personal property was stolen.

On March 17 at 11:55 a.m. near 6900 Hanover Parkway, the driver-side door handle was broken and personal property stolen. On March 18 at 8:40 a.m. near 9100 Springhill Court, the steering wheel airbag was stolen from a 2015 Honda Accord; at 9:38 a.m. near 7600 Greenbelt Road, personal property was stolen from a car while the driver was pumping gas; at 10:43 a.m. near 8100 Mandan Terrace, personal property was stolen from two unlocked cars; at 2:36 p.m. near 5900 Cherrywood Lane, the steering wheel airbag was stolen from a 2012 Honda Civic; at 5:33 p.m. near 9100 Springhill Lane, a steering wheel airbag was stolen from a 2020 Honda Accord.

Auto Vandalism

On March 13 at 9:26 a.m. near 5900 Cherrywood Lane, a rear driver-side window on a 2012 Kia Soul was broken, nothing was taken or damaged; at 4:40 p.m. near 9000 Edmonston Road, a 2008 silver BMW 128i had the back window broken. On March 16 at 6:21 p.m. near 8300 Miner Street, a passenger window was broken, nothing taken. On March 17 at 11:17 a.m. near 5900 Springhill Drive, a 2021 Kia sedan had the rear tire flattened and the windshield broken. On March 18 at 11:16 p.m. near 9100 Springhill Lane, a Honda Accord window was broken, nothing was taken.



Pileated woodpecker

PHOTO BY KATHRYN BEARD

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WOMEN continued from page 1

bringing in Greenbelt residents to see how the paper works through open houses and, several years ago, a booth at the Farmers Market. That booth aided us in discovering Deanna Dawson, now a behind-the-scenes key player. Each Tuesday Dawson is the last to read every story to be sure potential problems have been fixed prior to publication. Knowledgeable about the inner workings of the paper, Dawson can substitute for many key staffers when needed. A career ornithologist and lover of nature, Dawson also writes occasional stories of historical and ecological interest.



Deanna Dawson

Dawson also led the paper's efforts to create a new and improved digital archive, working with University of Maryland Libraries staff to scan all the old newspapers back to November 24, 1937. She continues to oversee the archive as it has now become part of the newspaper and new issues are constantly added. Without her dedicated service, the archive would still be a figment of the imagination.

Amy Hansen
(Managing Editor 2018-2022)



Amy Hansen

An important new role of managing editor was created in 2018. Amy Hansen pioneered that new role, which separated the editor role from day-to-day management. Hansen, who also writes children's books, articles and plays, stepped down in 2022 to focus on her own writing projects. She recruited another woman, Anna Bedford-Dillow (current managing editor), to take over the role. The managing editor plans what the paper will cover; assigns stories to reporters and monitors



Anna Bedford-Dillow

their progress; and coordinates with the editor, copy editors, advertising team and layout team to assemble the paper within the framework established by the editor. The managing editor also reports significant news stories not covered by others, such as breaking news, political rallies, actions of the Prince George's County Board of Education and public school news.

Business Sense

The board runs the News Review business: if the paper doesn't operate like one, it will lose money and be unable to publish. Board members ensure efficient business practices and solve problems. Meetre has played a significant role in this, including restoring Windsor Green deliveries; automating processes to reduce time and errors assembling ads and generating advertiser invoices, and implementing break-even values on which to base issue size for the week's ad revenues; moving layout from an outside company to in-house staff; and changing to a printer that provides color printing for lower cost than previous black-and-white service.



Diane Oberg joined the paper in 1980 and today serves on the board, handles various business operations, and reports on city council. See more in Part I (March 16 issue).

Hidden Figures

Readers see the names of reporters, whose work varies in frequency. Though production and business staff names are less visible (staff box, page 2, lower right), they put in the hours every week to produce the newspaper. Without their work, readers would see no articles.

Meetre says innovative ideas are successful only because the staff is brave enough to try them. She said all the staff provide leadership of some kind, since the paper's cooperative and democratic nature means anyone who suggests an idea can be a leader. She mused that the paper's forward course is shaped similarly. Each person's effort contributes to gradually guiding the newspaper's direction. Those who contribute more effort may have a greater influence. She said the News Review is the "weekly miracle" that keeps going (published every single week since Thanksgiving 1937) because people have latitude and influence and because of the dedication of so many.

What about the Men?

Meetre said, "Women have had a mighty impact on the paper. If they hadn't been willing to stand by it, it would have disappeared decades ago. The men that are there are wonderful, but there aren't many of them." Gary Childs was editor from 2018 to 2021. Today the seven-person board has one man. Currently men comprise 18 of 68 staff, two of whom handle advertising. Do men volunteer for different pursuits, or less than women? What do they do when they retire? Other organizations? Solitary hobbies? News Review staff don't know, but they welcome any volunteers.

"It's up to you," says Meetre. You, too, can make a difference. You don't need much background, or know how to write; the News Review has roles for people who don't want to write at all. If you are curious about or invested in your community, you are a candidate. There are many activities to choose from, according to your interests and availability. The staff will train you and more formally mentor new city council reporters. If what you try first doesn't work out, speak up and try something else. You will be welcomed with a generous heart.

The News Review is local journalism at its most vital, at a time when many local newspapers have disappeared. It sparks readers to speak up for what they want and don't want in their community; what they want from government; to protect Greenbelt's character and live its values. It has been News Review reporting and informed citizens that defended the press against libel, protected walkable Greenbelt neighborhoods and ensured Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) opened with a science and technology magnet program and was named for Eleanor Roosevelt (rather than the planned FDR) to acknowledge her personal interest and visits to confirm residents' satisfaction.

The News Review played an essential role in efforts that led to the building of the Spellman Overpass, which enables ERHS students and residents to safely cross the Baltimore-Washington Parkway; the creation of Green Ridge House senior housing; and saving the Forest Preserve. That reporting informed citizens who prevented a 25-story apartment building overlooking Greenbelt Lake in 2016-2017, and those who address the proposed maglev train and Greenbelt police reform today.

Let's make good trouble together. Let's make history.

For more highlights of News Review women, see Part I in the March 16, 2023 issue.



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One Volunteer's Story:
Pat Scully

Back in the late 1980s, I started as a proofreader on Wednesdays in response to a "HELP!" ad, and worked my way up to doing layout, which literally involved pasting down columns of



outside activities. ("What are you doing after class?" "Studying." "What are you doing when you finish studying?" "Going to bed.") Then I served as president of my quilt guild, the Southern Comforters, for eight years, another activity that expands to consume all available leisure time.

Meanwhile, the News Review transitioned to digital operations and by March 2015 needed a computer-literate person to process email during non-office hours. This seemed like a contained task, done alone with no arm-twisters for other jobs present, not subject to expansion. Ha. Currently I do email on the weekend and Monday evenings, between the paper's Monday and Tuesday office hours, and fill in when possible when other emailers are absent. I am one of three apprentices to Mary Lou on Tuesday nights, laying out the front page, prioritizing stories, selecting photos and advising with the other editorial staff. And I serve on the board of directors, which entails consideration of letters to the editor, monthly meetings and special projects as needed.

Since I was touching the whole paper except ads, I was elected to the board of directors. But a move to Calvert County in 1992 curtailed my involvement. When I moved back to Greenbelt 10 years later, I went to law school, which doesn't leave any time for



March daffodils bloom near Plateau Place.

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- ✓ Women's sexual and intimate health
- ✓ Urinary incontinence
- ✓ Overactive bladder
- ✓ Urge incontinence
- ✓ Urinary tract infections

At the Library

Regular hours are Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays, noon to 8 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m. In case of inclement weather or an emergency, real-time updates to the Greenbelt Library's schedule are posted at pgcmls.info/alerts.

Virtual Events

The Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) continues to offer virtual events for the public. The schedule of upcoming programs may be accessed at pgcmls.info/events.

Storytimes

Friday, March 24, 11:15 a.m., ages 2 to 3. Register at pgcmls.info/event/7892649 for stories, songs, fingerplays and more.

Monday, March 27, 10:15 a.m., ages newborn to 2. Register at pgcmls.info/event/7891653.

Kids Dance Class

Tuesday, March 28, 6:30 p.m. Ages 3 to 11. Practice kids ballet, lyrical, hip-hop, jazz and more, presented by Evolution Dance Studio. Register at pgcmls.info/event/7427594.

Teen Action Group

Wednesday, March 29, 4:30 p.m. Ages 13 to 18. Need to earn community service hours? Come make a difference in the community, gain friends from around the area and make your voice heard. Register at pgcmls.info/event/7891953.

VolunTEENS

Prince George's County teens in grades six to 12 can earn student service learning (SSL) hours through participation in the Library's VolunTEEN program. Teens may submit the information needed for each VolunTEEN prompt in Beanstack via the link at pgcmls.info/teens. All of the necessary information must be provided to earn SSL hours through the VolunTEEN program up to a maximum of 12 SSL hours.

Reading Challenge

PGCMLS and the Washington Wizards basketball team offer the Winter Reading Challenge through March 31. Visit pgcmls.info for more information and to register.

Chromebooks

Online 2Go Chromebooks may be borrowed from the Library by those 18 and older with library cards in good standing, one device per customer. No LINK or student accounts are allowed. The Chromebooks have a six-week loan period which may be renewed once for another six weeks if there are no hold requests from other customers. Further information is available at pgcmls.info/borrow-technology.

Golden Age Club Upcoming Events

On March 29, Greenbelt Police Officer Carlos Torres will talk about safety for seniors. All club meetings are held on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. in the Community Center, Room 201. All seniors are invited to attend as a member or as a guest. The anniversary luncheon will be held on Wednesday, April 19 at the Holiday Inn in College Park. There is a fee to attend.



Co-op Manager Dan Gillotte Updates Golden Age Club

by Mary Moien



PHOTO BY DAN GILLOTTE

Greenbelt Co-op Manager Dan Gillotte (left) updates Golden Agers at the meeting on Wednesday, March 8. Also shown are former Co-op employee Betty Price and Golden Ager John Henry Jones.

A full house was on hand to greet Dan Gillotte, manager of Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket, when he addressed the Greenbelt Golden Age Club on March 8. In response to a quick survey from Gillotte it was evident that the members were all longtime Greenbelters and most were longtime shoppers at the Co-op. He provided a little personal background: he started as manager at the Co-op in March 2020, the same week that the country went into Covid lockdown. It was a tough time to begin his position with the grocery store. Gillotte has been in the cooperative movement his entire career and came to Greenbelt from Texas.

Green Issues

Gillotte addressed a number of topics. One of the first was the issue of making the Co-op a greener business. He described some changes that have been made, including composting waste produce that had once been just thrown away. Another

accomplishment is the use of the solar panels that were installed on the store roof. These solar panels are now providing 40 percent of electricity usage. The Co-op has also been sourcing more local foods, which allows the store to be a little "more nimble" with access to fresh foods. There was a question from the audience on "food diversion," which is moving foods that are still usable but might be on the verge of being overripe or are not perfect. Gillotte indicated that he has been in discussions with local groups which are exploring these issues, but to date has not found a way for the Co-op to participate.

Saving Money

The price of groceries was another topic that Gillotte addressed. He said that they do all they can to keep prices down but prices of many items have increased substantially. He gave a few hints on saving money at the Co-op. These include checking the sales fliers and stocking

up on goods when they are on sale. He mentioned looking for and using coupons. Also, he suggested looking for Best Yet and That's Smart brands, which can often be found at a lower price yet at high quality. He commented that the store now has a large selection of natural and organic foods and that there are often substantial sales on some of these items, including the Field Day brand.

Self Checkout

The meeting was being held as the self-checkout lanes were being opened at the Co-op. In addition to the new self-checkout lanes, there will always be lanes available for traditional checkout and payment. Cash will only be accepted at the staffed lanes; all payment types will be accepted there. The self-checkout lanes will only accept cards and other electronic payments – no cash. Gillotte emphasized that no checkers or other personnel are being let go.

Holiday Items

Gillotte reminded his audience that items are available for upcoming Easter and Passover holidays. He indicated that it is difficult to reorder these items, so if they're on the shelf, buy them right away as the store may not be able to replenish them once they are gone.

Health Screenings Offered At American Legion

Residents of Greenbelt can learn about their risk for cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, diabetes and other chronic, serious conditions with affordable screenings by Life Line Screening. Greenbelt American Legion Post 136 will host this event on Thursday, April 13. The site is located at 6900 Greenbelt Road in Greenbelt.

Screenings can check for the level of plaque buildup in arteries, related to risk for cardiovascular disease, stroke and overall vascular health; HDL and LDL cholesterol levels; diabetes risk; kidney and thyroid function, and more

Screenings are affordable and convenient. Free parking is also available.

There is a fee, but consultants will work with attendees to create a suitable package based on age and risk factors. Call 1-877-237-1287 or visit the website at lifelinescreening.com. Pre-registration is required.

Three Sisters Gardens Needs Volunteers

The Chesapeake Education, Arts and Research Society (CHEARS) seeks volunteers to help develop and maintain the Three Sisters Gardens at Schrom Hills Park Garden, Center Garden (behind the Community Center), and Springhill Lake Garden (near the Springhill Lake Recreation Center).

Three Sisters provide gardening opportunities for urban dwellers and promote edible and native plant landscapes and community and learning opportunities. The gardens strive to be an inclusive setting, are handicapped accessible and promote sustainable and organic gardening practices. Orientation and training will be provided.

For more information or to volunteer, call the garden coordinator associated with the location of interest: Joe (Center Garden), 202-445-5964; Carolyn (Springhill Lake Garden), 240-707-5252; or Effie (Schrom Hills Park Garden), 443-415-1053.

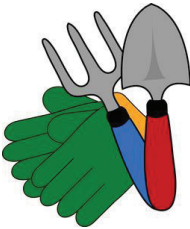


PHOTO BY KATHRYN BEARD

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Room 201

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NOTICE

INDOOR COMMUNITY YARD SALE –April 15, 2023. 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. @GVFD 125 Crescent Road. Table reservations: One \$15, Two \$25. For further information, please call: Kathy 301-474-4372. Food and beverages available for purchase.

SERVICES

CARING KIM’S PET CARE – Drop-in visits, walks and boarding by a lifetime animal lover and caregiver. Offered for dogs, cats and other small animals. Also dog waste removal service. Call Kim at 301-520-6708 for appointments or with questions.

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HOUSECLEANING – OVER 20 years in Greenbelt area. Weekly, bi-weekly, monthly or one-time cleaning offered. Local references and free estimates available. Debbie, 301-523-9884.

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TO CELEBRATE LAWN AND ORDER’S 10th season proudly serving the Greenbelt Community, Lawn and Order will take delivery of its new corporate jet later this month; in mid-April Lawn and Order’s logo will be illuminated on the International Space Station for 15 complete earth orbits; and on April 1, Lawn and Order will donate its labor and material costs for the entire month to ten lucky customers. Please call Dennis at 240-264-7638 to get an early start on winter cleanup and prepping your yard for spring planting and mulching. Please remember to stay safe. Covid is still around while the Freedom Caucus Clown Show Vaccine remains a work in progress.

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RATES

CLASSIFIED: \$3.00 minimum for ten words. 15¢ for each additional word. Submit ad with payment to the News Review office by 6 p.m. Tuesday, or to the News Review drop box in the Co-op grocery store before 5 p.m. Tuesday, or mail to 15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

BOXED: \$10.60/column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$15.90). Deadline 2 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 6 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads. Certs and Notarizations each \$10.

NEEDED: Please include name, phone number and address with ad copy. Ads not considered accepted until published.

DROP ads and payments in the mail slot in the exterior door of the News Review office. The door is located to the left of the main entrance on the east side of the Community Center (side closest to Roosevelt Center and the Municipal Building).

OVERPAYMENTS: To properly account for overpayments too small to warrant refunding, the News Review accumulates overpayments of less than \$1.00 and periodically contributes the funds to a registered charity. Once the office reopens, this policy will not apply to payments made in person.

ZELLE: The News Review is now accepting electronic payments through Zelle. Find out more at zellepay.com. Customers should direct their payments to business@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

AD DESK: 301-474-4131 or ads@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

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PHOTO BY HELENOR MESIAS

Greenbelt’s version of “A host of golden daffodils beside the ...” (William Wordsworth). These were flowering already in February.



PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER HAWKS

Must be spring! A robin near Mandan Road

COUNCIL continued from page 10

cross-contamination concerns. Most jurisdictions with bag laws, he said, have treated restaurants differently than other businesses. (Though Jane Young of Ridge Road said that she has never had a problem using her reusable bag in restaurants.)

Kap Kapastin, general counsel of Quantum Companies, owners of Beltway Plaza and also speaking on behalf of the mall’s merchants’ association, said that most of their member businesses object to the proposal. They are already facing higher costs for inventory, transportation and labor, he said, and any increase in the cost of doing business is ill-timed and ill-advised. Plastic bags cost two to three cents per bag, he said, while paper bags can cost 25 to 70 cents. He urged council to launch a committee or other entity to study consumer habits, alternatives to paper, among other aspects of the issue. He also called for bag legislation to be done at a regional or county level.

Zachary Taylor, director of the

American Recyclable Plastic Bag Alliance, said that most reusable bags with stitched handles are still made of plastic with higher emission profiles than film bags. He said that Montgomery County and the District of Columbia have gotten a “tremendous decrease” in plastic bags with just a small fee. In addition, a nationwide shortage of paper bags means that prices for the bags will increase if plastic film bags are banned. Research on Los Angeles County shows that consumers will go to other jurisdictions to avoid bag fees, Taylor said. He offered to work with the city to develop an approach that does not result in bad outcomes for local companies or increase the use of less sustainable products. When Weaver quoted the Environmental Protection Agency’s website that just 9.4 percent of plastic bags were recycled in 2017, Taylor cited a Quebec study that 77 percent get re-used at home for pet waste and lining wastebaskets, which reduces the need for alternative plastics.



Call for Sports News

Do you have Greenbelt sports news to share? We welcome your photos and stories at editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

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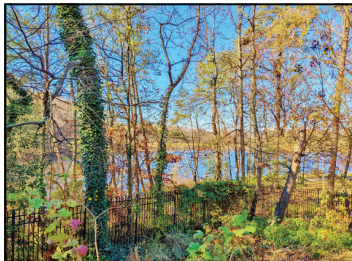


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Your Greenbelt Specialists
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News Review Report Brings Robotics Clubs Together

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

Among those who read with interest the story about the “Greenbelt Bots” Lego robotics club in the February 9 issue of the News Review was Karl Hille, coach of the Eleanor Roosevelt High School Robotics Club, Team 53.

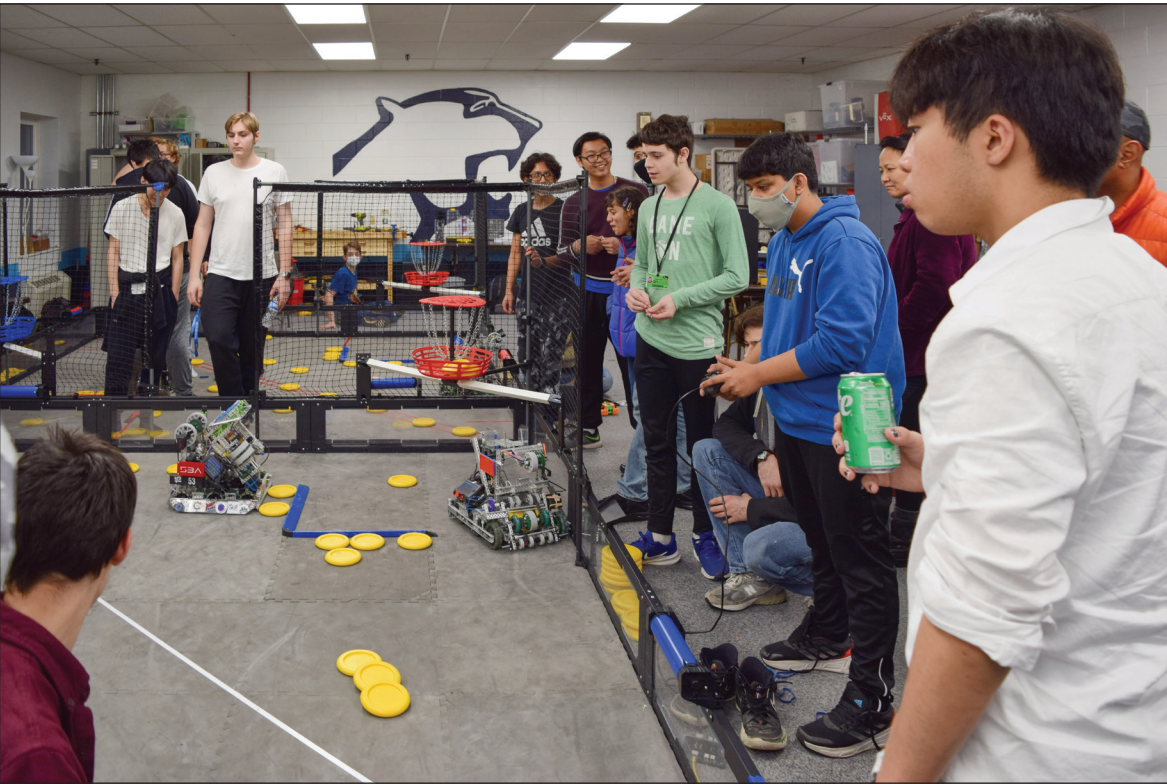
Hille and the high school’s robotics club extended an invitation to the younger First Lego League club to visit their practice and learn about another robotics competition that builds on the skills they have been learning.

Team 53 supports five teams of four to five students, ages 12 to 18, who build aluminum and steel robots for the VEX Robotics Competitions. Older students teach the younger members to build, principles of design and the engineering method. On March 3 they were gracious hosts to the Greenbelt Bots team, thanks to an introduction facilitated by the News Review.



On Friday, March 3, the Greenbelt Bots team visits the ERHS Robotics Team practice.

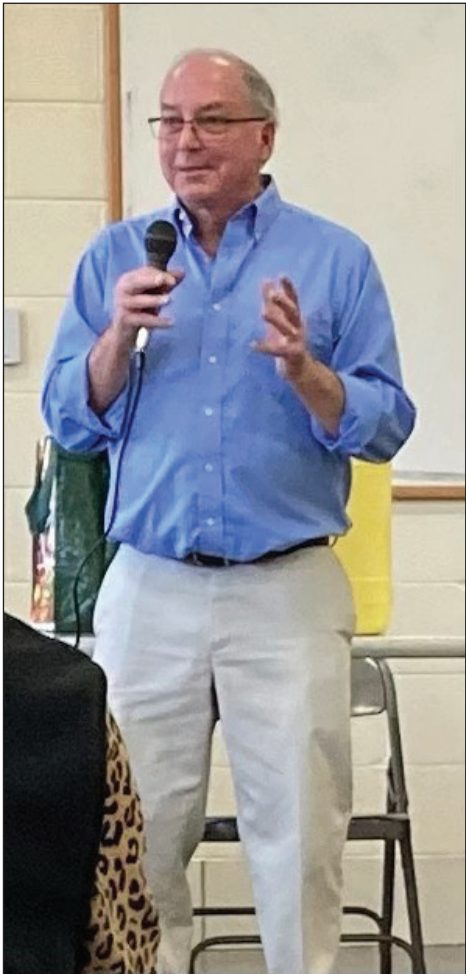
- Photos by Barrett Bedford-Dillow



visit www.greenbeltnewsreview.com

Golden Age Club Hears Of African Projects

On March 1, Rev. Dan Hamlin, retired pastor of Greenbelt Community Church, spoke to the Golden Age Club about his experiences in visiting Church World Service projects in Kenya. Each year CROP walks are held around the country to collect donations for these projects. CROP stands for Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty. East Africa has recurring droughts which affect all, but especially women and girls who must travel for hours a day bringing home large containers of water on their heads. The girls have no time to go to school. Projects are funded to dig wells and retaining ponds. This year’s local walk will be held on Sunday, May 7, from 1 to 4 p.m. around Lake Artemesia beginning at 5211 Campus Drive, with free parking near Linson Pool in College Park. For more information, email Lynn Doyle at lynbob20770@yahoo.com.



Rev. Dan Hamlin tells the Golden Age Club about the Crop Walk.



PHOTO BY ROBIN OLSON



A heron takes flight over Greenbelt Lake.

PHOTO BY HELENOR MESIAS



Eagle in flight

PHOTO BY KATHRYN BEARD